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INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS

VIETNAM'S PLANS IN DEEPENING DISASTER IN INDOCHINA

Paris PROJET in French Feb 80 pp 226-232

[Article by Paturaya and Martial Dasse: "The Indochina Disaster: Vietnam's Plans and the Game of the Great Powers"]

[Text] Millions of dead and millions of refugees; a country, Laos, on the way to disappearing; a people, the Khmer, close to being wiped off the face of the earth; such is the frightening ledger for Indochina barely 4 years after its "liberation." Vietnam obviously bears a heavy responsibility for its part, but this should not obscure the responsibility borne by the great powers, whose game for the most part remains murky. The USSR supports Hanoi economically and militarily, to extend its tentacles over all Southeast Asia. China, which claims to be working shoulder to shoulder with ASEAN (1) for peace, must be regarded with a suspicious eye. And then there is the United States, all too happy after having lost the war militarily to take political revenge. Before all these plots and ambitions, the Indochinese peoples can only endure in silence.

The Battlefield

Since the invasion of Cambodia in December 1978, the war has expanded throughout Indochina (2). In Laos, around 12,000 guerrilla fighters, mostly Meo montagnards in the north and northeast, and Laotians themselves in the south, continue to resist the 50,000 Vietnamese soldiers (3). Since August 1979, Peking has scattered throughout three northern provinces (4) some 4,000 regular Meo soldiers belonging to elite highland units of the Chinese army, who operate under the name, "Army of Lan Na," or "Army of the Million Rice-fields" (5). And some soldiers of Chinese origin have left the Laotian army to lend support to this army. Beyond this, the Communist Party of Thailand (PCT) has broken into two rival factions, a handful of predominantly intellectual dissidents having formed an "Association of the Northeast for the Liberation of the Thai Nation (ANNECNT), a temporary cover for a new communist party called the Communist Party of Siam (PCS), which follows the Soviet line. But the PCT, in November, declared that in the present phase of the struggle national conflicts were more important than class conflicts, and ordered its troops, 14,000 armed men, to attack members of

the PCS at every opportunity. Then, the PCT sent 1,000 men to south Laos to bring help to the Khmers F Rouges and to try to break up communication links between Laos and the Vietnamese forces in Cambodia.

In Vietnam even the montagnards, whose role in Indochina's wars is too often ignored, entered into armed or passive opposition to Hanoi. In the north, there are 2.7 million montagnards, of whom 400,000 are Thais and more than 500,000 "Tays" (Thais more or less Vietnamized). Now, after the victory of 1975, Hanoi, which had shown considerable tolerance up until then, began to harden its position progressively, giving the impression that now that the war was won, there was no further reason to treat them with kid gloves. The Tay generals Chu Van Tan and Le Quang Ba (6) were cashiered in May 1978; then, in August 1979 Hanoi announced their arrest for pro-Chinese activity. They had only asked to benefit from the same rights as the Thai montagnards on the other side of the border. On the high plateaus of the south, about a million native montagnards continued unceasingly to fight the Vietnamese of the plains, and their resistance continues up to this day. They work with the Khmers Pougues who furnish them logistical support. Vietnam is thus strained to keep three divisions there at all times.

But it is obvious that the situation in Cambodia is worse of all. At the time of the invasion, the first-stage objective was to take Phnom Penh and install a new government, and, by following the roads, to get to the Thai frontier in order to give the impression of controlling the whole country. But the second stage, destruction of the Khmers Rouges, has not been accomplished.

The first offensive against the Khmers Rouges guerrillas was slowed down by the Chinese attack in February. The Vietnamese were thus constrained to change their battle plan and begin the repatriation of their best troops, which was done starting in April by means of Soviet transport aircraft. Finally, in June, when the rainy season had called a halt to fighting, the Khmers Rouge still remained a significant force.

Both sides took advantage of the opportunity provided by the rainy season to reorganize, but the interval most benefitted Vietnam. In August, 13 divisions were returned to the north to reinforce the defenses on the Chinese frontier, and they were replaced by new divisions, equipped by the USSR, 40 percent of whose personnel were South Vietnamese, even some exofficers of the South, let out of their "reeducation camps" for the occasion. At the beginning of September, the new deployment was in place. 19 divisions were in Cambodia, supported by 12 independent regiments, for a total of more than 200,000 men, some 20 divisions on the northern frontier, and the rest dispersed in South Vietnam and Laos. If the local militias are counted as a para-military force, in accordance with the general mobilization decree of 5 March 1979, Vietnam collected more than a million men under its flag.

The Vietnamese also tried to form a Khmer army and, to this end, an officers' school was opened near Phnom Penh. But it was quickly closed for lack of volunteers--despite the rations offered to trainees while Cambodia was being ravaged by famine. The Heng Samrin government, however, has about 15,000 troops, but they have already clashed with the Vietnamese, and desertions are frequent; for, tired of taking orders from the occupation forces, they sometimes prefer to join up with the "Free Khmers" or even the Khmers Rouges. The Vietnamese thus arm them lightly and only entrust them with such functions as guarding bridges, patrolling the villages, and above all parading in Phnom Penh to create the impression that Heng Samrin has both military and popular support.

The Khmers Rouges, in the isolated bush of the provinces of Ratanakiri and Mondolkiri in the northeast, and Kratie and Stung Treng in the center, received no help and wasted away. Those situated in the Dangrek mountains, in the northwest, by contrast, grew thanks to the active support of the PCT, which is well established in the region. In the southwest, in the Cardamomes, they survived, thanks to contraband dealings with Thai merchants, but only with difficulty. This was clear when the first refugees, coming for the most part from zones controlled by the Khmers Rouges, entered Thailand beginning on 6 October. But, at that time, the Western powers, the High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR), the Red Cross, and the United Nations Childrens Fund (UNICEF) decided to bring aid to Cambodia via the Thai frontier, for all Khmers whatever their political allegiance. This assistance saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of Khmers hit by the famine and the Khmers Rouges thus also received a sufficient revictualling. They were therefore able to re-form 9 divisions of 3,500 men and some independent units (7).

Especially since January 1979, other Khmers called Free Khmers have come to light. The oldest groups is that of Andre Oukthal, who calls himself a doctor of philosophy and cousin of Sihanouk, by virtue of which he decks himself out with the title of "prince" and the pseudonym of Norodom Sorjavong. At first based to the south of the border town of Aranyaprathet, Oukthal was chased out by the Khmers Rouges and took refuge 30 km north of the town. He benefitted from some complicity at the highest level in Thailand, and by his armed provocations was responsible for numerous skirmishes between the Khmers Rouges and the Thai army, before the fall of Pol Pot. He also brought refugees to Thailand for the sum of Fr. 5,000 (per head), but today he gets only Fr 20 because the Khmers are stripped of everything and the border is for the most part open. He has gathered 250,000 civilians around him whose material needs are supplied by the UNHCR and UNICEF, but he discourages them from going to the camps provided further into the Thai interior for refugees, out of fear of losing this very useful "popular support." Two other groups of the same kind are found in this same zone, accounting for about 200,000 refugees, for a total of 450,000 refugees living more or less transiently on the Khmer-Thai frontier (8). Another group, led by General In Tam, who was one of the leaders of the coup against Sihanouk in 1970, counts no more than 1,000 armed men and collaborates totally with the Khmers Rouges (9).

Finally, the group long considered the most important is that of Son Sann, ex-prime minister of Sihanouk. But today, he seems to be falling on increasingly hard times. And while he claimed to be acting in accord with Sihanouk, the latter disavowed this completely. And in fact, Son Sann is at the head of a composite group made up of Khmers Rouges and old Republican officers. On 9 October, he officially proclaimed the existence of the National Front for the Liberation of the Khmer People, and proclaimed himself president of it. His chief of staff is General Dien Del, former commander of the Second Division in Phnom Penh in 1974, and his vice president is Chhean Vam. Now Chhean Vam's wife's brothers are Thiounn Mumm, Pol Pot's old minister of health, and Thiounn Prasit, the Khmer Rouge envoy to the UN. But relations between the Khmers Rouges and the republican Khmers are strained and bode poorly for what will come of this "union" in case of victory.

Thus, against the Vietnamese, only the Khmers Rouges and Sihanouk can be found, the latter of course enjoying great prestige in the international community, but not supported by armed forces and described by Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong as a "has-been."

Cambodia: The Basic Stakes

Vietnam's determination to keep control of Cambodia is evident. On 3 December 1978 it gave its blessings to the creation of the United Front for the National Salvation of Kampuchea (FUSNK), which was installed in Phnom Penh the following 7 January, under the presidency of Heng Samrin. On 8 January, the FUSNK held its first congress, in the course of which some members had served only as "extras" disappeared, and the People's Revolutionary Council (CRP) was formed. Now in the CRP Pen Sovan, the representative of Hanoi (10), emerged as minister of defense. For Heng Samrin, ex-commander and political commissar of the Fourth Division, and ex-member of the executive committee of the Communist Party of Kampuchea from the eastern region, had in fact distinguished himself precisely in the border war with the Vietnamese, before fleeing to Vietnam in May 1978 after being implicated in an attempted coup against Pol Pot. And his companion at arms was Hun Sen, his present minister of foreign affairs and old subordinate, commander of the 21st regiment in the eastern region, who fled to Vietnam with him and for the same reasons. The Vietnamese thus recruited the ex-Khmers Rouge for lack of anyone better and to give "local color" to the FUSNK. They are only convenient figureheads who will assuredly be eliminated when the time has come, in the manner already applied to Laos and South Vietnam.

Underpopulated Cambodia must be re-settled, and already more than 250,000 Khmers Krom (11) and South Vietnamese have been settled in the provinces of the extreme southeast, especially in Kampong Cham which, laong with Battambang on the Thai border, is the "rice-basket" of Cambodia.

Vietnam also intends to supervise subversion in Thailand through the PCS which is already operating in the northeast. But as the PCT is solidly planted in the north, Vietnam needs a common border with Thailand so the PCS will have a solid support base--the Mekong River, which forms the border between Thailand and Laos in the northeast, being unsuitable for large supply ships.

Finally, Vietnam and the USSR, by maintaining their presence in Cambodia, want to demonstrate that China is only a "paper tiger." And the USSR, starting with a Vietnamized Indochina, should have much more weight with which to extend its influence throughout Southeast Asia.

Soviet Aims, China's Ambiguity, and ASEAN's Pragmatism

The USSR, it is becoming increasingly clear, not only wants to encircle China from Afghanistan to Vietnam, but has designs even more vast. In the long term the PCS is only the first link in a chain of pro-Soviet communist parties, to be followed with others, first of all in Malaysia and Singapore. It is to be remarked that the USSR is very active in student and labor circles in Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and the Philippines. Moreover, ASEAN is convinced that Qadhdhafi and the USSR are working together in support of rebellions by Muslim minorities in Thailand, the Philippines, and also Burma. Let us add that Indonesia (110 million Muslims out of 140 million inhabitants) and Malaysia (6.5 million Muslims out of 13 million inhabitants) are confronting, so far with success, agitation by integrist movements which are also receiving funds from Tripoli. Thus, the United States has no hesitation in stating that the secret aim of the USSR is to grab the Straits of Molucca and to obtain port facilities in Vietnam, thereby to control maritime traffic between the Pacific Ocean and the Indian Ocean.

To seduce ASEAN, the USSR makes use of numerous arguments against China, and these appeals find an echo in Singapore and Indonesia, which have not yet established diplomatic relations with Peking. Singapore fears China because 75 percent of its 2.5 million inhabitants are overseas Chinese, and Indonesia has not forgotten that the communists attempted a coup supported by China in 1965. Moreover, for Indonesia, Vietnam does not represent a threat, and the USSR, a faraway country of white people, is much less dangerous than China, nearby and Asiatic. Finally, Moscow emphasizes all the ambiguity of Chinese policy. The Chinese minorities in Southeast Asia could be reclaimed some day by China, like those in Vietnam were, and could turn against their adopted country. All the communist parties of the region are pro-Chinese; the PCT radio, Voice of the Thai People, based in China, which ceased broadcasting on 10 July 1979, resumed in November, destroying the illusion that China could curb its support for local communist movements for the sake of the common struggle against the USSR-Vietnam bloc; and the Army of Lan Na threatens northern Thailand. Finally, according to the USSR, China is also

spreading rumors of collusion between Thailand and the Khmers Rouges in order to incite Vietnam to intervene in Thailand, which would give it an excuse to inflict a "second lesson" on Hanoi, and prevent any future rapprochement between ASEAN and Vietnam.

However, ASEAN, firmly supported by the United States, does not want to choose between the two communist giants. It maintained its recognition of the Pol Pot government at its mid-December meeting in Kuala Lumpur, because recognizing the Heng Samrin government could create too awkward a precedent. And since ASEAN demands the withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops as a precondition for negotiations, while Vietnam demands that ASEAN first withdraw its support of Pol Pot, the situation is still deadlocked.

The Price Paid by the Indochinese People

In 1972, the population of Cambodia was 7.2 million (12). In January 1979, after three years of civil war and four years of the Khmer Rouge regime, the population had fallen to 5 million, according to a study undertaken by the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok. At the present time therefore the population should amount to more than four million, of whom one million are found on or near the Thai border. The exodus toward Thailand is stimulated by the famine, which, according to refugees, the Vietnamese encouraged. In reality, it is not the Khmers Rouges, isolated in the bush and dependent almost exclusively on local production, who have hindered the cultivation of rice, but rather the Vietnamese in order to starve the Khmers Rouges and to oblige the people to take refuge in the cities where they can be controlled. Witnesses agree also on the fact that, except within a radius of 80 km outside of Phnom Penh, the Vietnamese distribute nothing, or very little (sometimes not more than 1 kg of rice per month) of the aid procured by the international organizations. One must ultimately conclude that Heng Samrin puts international diplomatic recognition ahead of the survival of the people he claims to represent. One can speculate that, after the expected military victory, the deaths from hunger and illness may be ascribed to the exactions of the Pol Pot government--facile excuse for yet another genocide.

In Laos, out of barely more than 3 million people who lived there in 1975, 400,000 are presently abroad, of whom 350,000 are Laotians proper, and 50,000 Meo. But the Laotians' naturally carefree nature will prevent them from falling into Vietnam's excesses and those of the Khmers Rouges, and it can be said that this people, accustomed to living in autarchy from what it can grow, is the least unfortunate in all Indochina--even though its own lot be far from enviable. The peasants continue their almost traditional life, modified only by a few socialist deposits that are assimilated very slowly.

In Vietnam, one need only point to the 3 million unemployed out of a population of 52 million, the persecution to which the Chinese minority is subjected, the flight of young youth Vietnamese to escape the draft, to understand the dissatisfaction which reigns there. The monthly rations speak for themselves: 50 g of sugar, 200 g of meat, 6 kg of rice and 7 kg of vegetables and manioc. Vietnam only survives thanks to the help of the USSR, which in 1979 supplied 1 million tons of rice, 400,000 tons of wheat, and 2.5 million dollars a day.

Indochina is thus in extremely grave condition. The USSR is the only country which, by stopping its arms deliveries and financial aid, could force Vietnam to make peace and withdraw its troops to allow these countries to choose their own destiny freely. As a result, China will continue to find good pretexts for destabilizing Laos and Vietnam and supporting the Khmers Rouges, while the United States exploits the situation to obtain more concessions from ASEAN in exchange for protection and to increase its arms sales.

Postscript: 26 December: we left for the border to visit the refugees, those in the camps as well as those "controlled"--and the word is too weak--by the "Free Khmers." These latter only add to the frightening misery of the Khmers, and of the children especially. There are thousands, perhaps tens of thousands, of orphans. Barely 15 years old, they are the ones who volunteer to fight. What else can they do to give themselves an identity? These visits confirm for us the genocide perpetrated by Vietnam; and, too, it cannot be said too strongly, the Vietnamese invasions has only redoubled the already immense catastrophe for the Khmers. The latter are only a trinket in the hands of the great powers and of Vietnam. As for the shifts in leadership of the Khmers Rouges, it is too soon yet to be able to evaluate the consequences with certainty.

FOOTNOTES

1. Association of South East Asian Nations, which includes: Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, and the Philippines.
2. For a political and military background, refer to the articles by the same authors: "Can Cambodia Survive?", PROJET, November 1978, and "Asia: The End of the Myths," PROJET, June 1979.
3. The American sub-committee for Pacific and East Asian Affairs declares its certainty that the Vietnamese have been using poison gas since 1974 to annihilate this resistance.
4. Phong Saly, Nam Tha and Luang Prabang.

5. Lan Na is the name of the ancient kingdom of north Thailand which became an integral part of the Thai nation in the Seventeenth Century. On this subject, see also the third part of this article.
6. Chu Van Tan was minister for national defense in the first government formed by Ho Chi Minh in 1945. Subsequently, he became a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (PCV) and of the Supreme Defense Council, and vice president of the Permanent Committee of the National Assembly.

Le Quang Ba was a close companion of Ho Chi Minh since 1928 and commanded the famous 316th Tay Division at Dien Bien Phu. He was also a member of the PCV Central Committee.
7. From 15 to 20 percent of the troops are less than 18 years old.
8. At the end of November Thailand gave them a choice: return to Cambodia or go into the camps. Thailand fears that this mass of refugees organized by armed Free Khmers, could furnish an excellent pretext to Vietnam to carry the war into Thai territory.
9. Sihanouk was the first to disclose this, and he said, in fact, that he received money and arms from China. FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, 27 April 1979.
10. Pen Sovan was excluded from the Khmer Rouge movement in 1973 and then fled to Hanoi. He went on a trip to Moscow, alone, in October 1979.
11. Krom means South. The Khmers Krom are Khmers living in South Vietnam. There were 500,000 of them in 1971. One group of them collaborates with Hanoi; the other, with General In Tam--Khmer Krom himself--undertakes sabotage actions against the support bases of the Vietnamese forces in Cambodia.
12. "Area Handbook for the Khmer Republic," The American University, p. 17.

9516

CSO: 4200

SRV TROOP WITHDRAWAL ONLY SOLUTION TO KAMPUCHEA PROBLEMS

BK161237 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to
Kampuchea 2330 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Station commentary: "From the Human Rights Viewpoint As Well As All Other Aspects, the World Clearly Sees That the Key to Settling the Kampuchean Problem Is for Vietnamese Troops to Immediately Withdraw From Kampuchea"]

[Summary] The United Nations, ASEAN, EEC, governments, mass and political organizations and peoples cherishing peace, justice and independence the world over have expressed concern over Vietnam's genocidal war in Kampuchea and have demanded an immediate withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea. "By a 20 to 9 vote, the UN Human Rights Commission's 13 March session in Geneva adopted a resolution condemning the Vietnamese Le Duan clique's aggression and crimes in Kampuchea and demanding that it withdraw all its troops from this country. This is a just action. The settling of the current human rights question in Kampuchea by demanding that Vietnam withdraw its troops from Kampuchea is the most correct stand and most effective solution to eliminate the untold sufferings of the Kampuchean people and solve all problems in Kampuchea as well as the serious threat to peace, security and stability of Thailand and the rest of Southeast Asia."

Through their heinous crimes perpetrated in Kampuchea, the world has clearly seen that the Vietnamese are the worst criminals, unprecedented in history. They are regional expansionists serving the global strategy of the Soviet Union, threatening the peace and stability of Thailand and the region. They massacre and persecute the Kampucheans by all means, creating famine to starve the Kampuchean people to death and causing the world community to shoulder heavy burdens with Kampuchean, Lao and Vietnamese refugees.

The Vietnamese authorities are using all types of weapons against the Kampuchean people, including toxic chemicals. They starve the people and arrest and forbid them from carrying out production. The Vietnamese troops fire at and kill weak Kampuchean civilians trying to get international relief aid at the border. They divert international aid meant for the Kampuchean population and give it to their troops. "These are no ordinary violations of human rights. They are acts of genocide to exterminate the Kampuchean nation."

Vietnam's special war in Kampuchea has caused many serious problems for Thailand and other Southeast Asian countries. The question of refugees from Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam alone has seriously threatened the security, economic and social structures of these countries.

Therefore, however we view it, the only key to settling all these problems is to force Vietnam to withdraw all its aggressor troops from Kampuchea without delay. "The Human Rights Commission realized this and adopted the resolution demanding that all Vietnamese troops be withdrawn from Kampuchea. This is the only way to settle the whole Kampuchean problem forever."

CSO: 4212

ROK-RTG POLITICAL, ECONOMIC RELATIONS SURVEYED

Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 12 Mar 80 p 4

[Text] Bangkok--The close friendly and cooperative relations between the Republic of Korea and the Kingdom of Thailand with the turn of the 1980s are expected to consolidate further under the new government of Prem Tinsulanond.

Immediately after the election of new Prime Minister Gen. Prem, who was formerly Thailand's army commander and concurrently defense minister, Korean Ambassador Kim In-guan commented: "I'm confident that the change of power in the Thai government will not affect the active, firm relationship between Seoul and Bangkok."

"I look forward to witnessing the cooperative bonds between the two countries expand without interruption in the days ahead," the ambassador said.

Interestingly, Ambassador Kim was the man who was having talks with the then defense minister, when former prime minister Kriangsak Chomanan declared his resignation.

The new Thai government under Prime Minister Prem is expected to continue a neutral but pro-Western stance in foreign affairs, a diplomat at the Korean Embassy here explained.

"He (Prem) has a very clean image," the diplomat said. "The dynamic 59-year-old leader is believed to pursue ever-closer cooperative ties with Seoul for mutual benefits."

Although Seoul and Bangkok established diplomatic relations at minister level in 1958 and upgraded them to a full ambassadorial-level relationship two years later in 1960, the cooperative bonds between the two nations date back to 1950, when the Thai government dispatched a 4,000-man military unit to Korea to defeat the aggression against south Korea by the north Korean Communists.

During the past 30 years, diplomatic relations have been very active with frequent exchanges of prominent government and parliamentary leaders of the two nations, including the late Korean president Park Chung-hee, who visited Thailand in 1966.

Prime Minister Prem, when he was defense minister, was to visit Korea last year. But he reportedly cancelled his schedule because of the assassination of president Park.

Diplomatic sources here, however, did not exclude the possibility of a visit by Prime Minister Prem to Seoul in the near future, possibly next year, with an eye to seeking ways of promoting bilateral relations with the Korean government leaders to be elected by then.

Economically, Korea and Thailand have witnessed growing bonds in recent years.

Korea's exports to this nation in 1975 totaled about \$20 million. This figure increased to \$24 million in 1976, \$72 million in 1977, \$83 million in 1978 and some \$120 million last year. Thailand's exports to Korea have also risen from \$44 million in 1975 to about \$70 million last year.

The two-way trade between the two nations is expected to show an upturn in the years to come, a Korean Embassy source forecast.

The source based his prediction on the fact that Thailand would call for electronic, machinery and other industrial products made in Korea, and Korea for abundant raw materials produced here.

One of the serious problems faced by the Korean Embassy here is how to effectively cope with the maneuvers of north Korea to penetrate into Thailand.

Thailand and north Korea set up diplomatic relations in 1975, but Pyongyang still confronts difficulty in opening its resident embassy here.

The north Korean diplomatic tactics, reinforced since last year when north Korean foreign minister Ho Dam visited here, were chiefly focused on establishing a resident embassy and on providing a foothold to penetrate into the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Pyongyang is now launching die-hard efforts, taking advantage of the growing influence of Peking, to promote relations with this nation.

Despite the aggressive north Korean approaches, coupled with camouflaged propaganda offensives, Thailand seems to have little interest in enhancing ties with north Korea.

"Thailand has no big expectation on trade promotion with Pyongyang," a diplomatic source said. "The Thai government has postponed indefinitely the visit of a north Korean cultural mission to Thailand."

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

JAPANESE AID TO SRI LANKA--Tokyo March 19 KYODO--Japan will extend a grant aid totaling yen 350,834,000 to Sri Lanka for economic and welfare improvement of that country, the foreign ministry announced Wednesday. Notes on the aid were exchanged Tuesday in Colombo by Japanese Ambassador Keisuke Ochi and C. Channugam, acting Sri Lanka Finance and Planning Minister. Sri Lanka will use the Japanese aid for the purchase of goods and services necessary for the economic development and the improvement of the people's welfare. Japan decided to give Sri Lanka the aid in accordance with the resolution adopted at the Ninth ministerial conference of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD in March 1978. [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 19 Mar 80]

JAPANESE AID TO INDIA--Tokyo March 19 KYODO--Japan will provide India with a grant aid of yen 2,687,563,000, the foreign ministry announced Wednesday. Notes to this effect were exchanged Tuesday in New Delhi by Japanese ambassador Masao Kanazawa and R.R.N. Malhotra, additional secretary to the Indian Finance Ministry's economic department. The Indian government will use the Japanese aid for the purchase of goods and services necessary for the economic development and the improvement of the people's welfare. Japan decided to extend the aid to India in accordance with the resolution adopted at the Ninth Ministerial Conference of the Trade and Development Board (TOB) of UNCTAD in March 1978. [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 19 Mar 80]

JAPANESE AID TO BANGLADESH--Tokyo March 21 KYODO--Japan has provided Bangladesh with yen 1,393.05 million in grant aid to help that country carry out its economic development programs and improve the welfare of its people, the foreign ministry announced Friday. Notes on the aid were exchanged in Dacca Thursday between Japanese Ambassador Hironori Ito and Muhammed Ali, joint secretary, external resources division of Bangladesh's finance ministry. The aid will be disbursed from the economic development aid fund for current fiscal 1979, the ministry said. Its extension was in line with a resolution adopted at the Ninth Ministerial Conference of UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board (TOB), it said. [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 21 Mar 80]

CSO: 4220

BRIEFS

1980-81 ECONOMIC GROWTH TARGETS--The report on 1980-81 financial, economic and social conditions in the country submitted to the People's Assembly has suggested that the gross domestic product and value of services growth rate for 1980-81 should be 6.9 percent higher than that of 1979-80. The objective is calculated on the constant prices of 1969-70. The growth rates according to sectors are: 9.5 percent for agriculture, 8.2 percent for meat and fish, 5.9 percent for forestry, 17.9 percent for mining, 13.8 percent for industry, 16.2 percent for electricity, 5.7 percent for construction, 8.6 percent for transportation, 6.1 percent for communications, 4.9 percent for social and administrative, and 2.1 percent for trade. [Text] [BK301542 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Mar 80 BK]

EXPORT PROMOTION--Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha discussed promotion of export with the export promotion supervisory committee at his office at 1030 today. The meeting was also attended by Deputy Prime Minister Thura [honorific title] U Tun Tin. U Maung Maung Kha noted that the committee was set upon experimental basis in January 1979 and was reconstituted in 1979-80. As a result of efforts made by the economic organizations under the ministries concerned, export during this current fiscal year had reached a total of 2.67 billion kyats, surpassing the original target. This committee, the prime minister added, will be reconstituted again in 1980-81. The primary task of this committee is to promote trade. However, he urged the committee to also coordinate the importation of goods in the coming fiscal year. He also expressed satisfaction over tax collection during the current fiscal year. The members of the export promotion supervisory committee then offered suggestions for more effective work in the coming year, based on their experience. The prime minister discussed their suggestions and issued some instructions. The meeting ended at 1130. [Text] [BK311522 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 31 Mar 80 BK]

ALGERIAN ENVOY APPOINTMENT--An agreement has been accorded to the proposed appointment of Mr Raouf Boudjakdji as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma. Born in 1930, Mr Raouf Boudjakdji was graduated from the Higher School of Commerce, Algiers in 1954. He was a member of the National Liberation Front during the war of Liberation. He served as assistant head of the FLN in New York from 1958 to 1962, and later as Assistant to the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations from 1962 to 1964. He was the head of the Section of International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Algeria from 1964 to 1979. Mr Raouf Boudjakdji served as permanent Representative of Algeria at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva from 1971 until he was appointed as Ambassador of Algeria to India in 1979 and concurrently to the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma. He will reside in New Delhi. He is married and has four children.--NAB [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 10 Mar 80 pp 1, 8]

CSO: 4220

DESPITE DROUGHT, FOODGRAIN POSITION TERMED 'GOOD'

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 15 Mar 80 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI, 13 Mar— Despite the severe drought and the increased offtake of foodgrains by the public distribution system during the year, the foodgrain stock position in India continues to be "quite comfortable", official sources said today.

B C Gongopadhya, Chairman of the Food Corporation of India, the monopoly Government agency which controls and manages food movements and distribution, said that the central stock of foodgrains in mid-December stood at 18.1 million tonnes. By end of March, when usually the stock reaches the lowest ebb, the central pool would have at least 15 million tonnes of grains. This, he said, was in sharp contrast to 1966, another year of severe drought, when India had to import 10 million tonnes of foodgrains.

Official sources in the Food and Agriculture Ministry said that food production target for 1980-81 had been fixed at 135 million tonnes. The Ministry after discussing food requirements with the Planning Commission has fixed the rice production target at 55 million tonnes and that of wheat at 36 million tonnes for the current year.

Target for pulses production is fixed at 14 million tonnes and coarse

grain at 30 million tonnes.

Experts of food situation say that Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi's Government has inherited some very tough economic problems from its predecessor, but "food situation is not likely to be one of them", they said.

The drop in "kharif" (summer) output because of the severe drought in eastern India and part of central India has been finally estimated at around nine million tonnes, but experts say that the loss to some extent has been mitigated by the record food output of 131.4 million tonnes in 1978-79. The Government procurement agencies have been able to mop up around 2.6 million tonnes of grain from the summer crops despite the extensive drought. Another one million is in the pipeline.

However, Government statistics do not rightly project the food situation in rural India, experts said.

A tour of drought-hit eastern state of Bihar confirms the apprehension that poor farmers and

agricultural labourers are to face a tough time this year.

An AFP correspondent who toured villages in Arrah District of drought-hit Bihar State reports that at least 60 per cent of the summer crops have been totally lost. The remaining 40-per-cent crops is at the mercy of make-shift irrigation system.

"Due to drought, we lost half of our paddy crop and if the present dry spell continues, we will also lose the entire wheat crop," Ambika Singh, a farmer in the village, said.

Singh has six acres of land and by Bihar standard is quite well off. He said: "If we lose the wheat crop, we will have to eat up our emergency and seed stock."

Lakhan Yadav, an agricultural labourer, said that he and his family would have to revert to "once-a-day eating" if the present drought situation continues.

Dr Sushil Mukherjee, an independent researcher on food situation, questioned Government claims of comfortable food stocks and said "the stock is good, because 40 per cent of Indians do not have the money power to buy foodgrains. They go hungry and will go hungry this year as well", he said.

INDIA

MODERN FRIGATE UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN BOMBAY

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 11 Mar 80 p 10

[Text] London, March 10: The Indian Navy is poised for a major breakthrough in indigenous designing of warships and naval weapon systems with stronger punch and power.

A new sophisticated frigate has been designed to succeed the present frigates. The frigate is expected to be launched by middle of this year. Being built at the Mazagon Dock in Bombay, the frigate will have a new antisubmarine weapon system and capacity to carry two sea King Helicopters. The first four frigates being built with foreign collaboration the Alouette Helicopter as its own detection devices to locate submarines and carry out an attack. The helicopters can also be adopted for multipurpose roles in antisubmarine warfare and firing missile against surface ships.

The frigate will have foreign equipment amounting to only 27 percent of its total cost and equipped with surface missiles, anti-aircraft missiles and antisubmarine weapons and torpedoes.

The Mazagon Dock at Bombay has emerged as one of the most advanced ship-building yards in the world. Functioning as a public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Defense Production, it has been expanded and modernized since its takeover in 1960. Besides building the most sophisticated frigates for the Indian Navy, it has also been entrusted with the job of manufacturing submarines.--PPI

CSO: 4220

INDONESIA-AFGHANISTAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE FORMED

Officers Named

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 14 Jan 80 p 1

[Excerpts] The Indonesia-Afghanistan Solidarity Committee has announced its full list of officers as a follow-up to the formation of this committee several days ago.

The committee is headed by Amin Iskandar (member of Parliament), with Dr Lukman Harun as deputy chairman. The posts of general secretary and deputy general secretary are held by Shafiuddin and Rusdi Hamka, respectively. Other officers of the committee include Nuddin Lubis, Mudhan Amin, Nasruddin Hars, Zen Bajeber and A. Shahab.

The committee is strengthened with the formation of an advisory council comprising Prof Dr Hamka, K. H. Abdullah Sya'li, K. H. Ali Yafi and K. H. Abdullah bin Nuh.

In its press release last Saturday morning, the committee said that its formation is within the framework of supporting the struggle of the nonaligned and Moslem Afghanistan people against an open aggression by well-equipped Soviet combat forces.

Appeal to Castro

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 26 Jan 80 p 1

[Excerpts] In his telegram addressed to Cuban President Fidel Castro, the chairman of the Indonesia-Afghanistan Solidarity Committee, H. Amin Iskandar, called upon the concurrent chairman of the Nonaligned Summit Conference to strictly abide by the stand of the absolute majority of nonaligned countries in the United Nations.

At a recent UN General Assembly session, the absolute majority of nonaligned nations appealed that all foreign troops be withdrawn from the Afghanistan territory forthwith.

Amin Iskandar posed this issue before Fidel Castro and requested the latter to urge Russia to recall her troops. It is hoped that as chairman of the Nonaligned Summit Conference in Havana, Castro will denounce Soviet aggression and interference of Afghanistan.

9300

CSO: 4213

NATION NEEDS 325 MILLION SETS OF CONTRACEPTIVE PILLS

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 12 Jan 80 p 1, 3

[Excerpts] To carry out the family planning program in the Third Five-Year Plan (Pelita III), we need 325 million sets [a set is for one cycle] of contraceptive pills, 15.3 million dozens of condoms and 6.1 million pieces of IUDs, said Dr Haryono, deputy director of the Coordinating Body for National Family Planning day before yesterday.

He hoped that availability of the said birth control devices would attract 7.5 million new, lasting family planning acceptors, bringing the cumulative total to 12.5 [sic. should be 13.0] million at the end of Pelita III.

Since the family planning program was launched in 1970 up till the present, the number of continuous acceptors has reached 5.5 million people, while married couples who at one time or another jointly took part in the program totalled 14.5 million.

With regard to the planned pill factory in Bandung, Dr P. Sumbung, deputy director for general affairs, explained that the plant will be the first of its kind in Southeast Asia.

The pill factory in Bandung will have a production capacity of 18 million sets per year. However, as 60 million sets of such pills are needed annually to fulfill the family planning requirements, the country still has to import more pills from abroad.

Asked about the difference in price between domestic and imported pills, the doctor said it could be as high as Rp. 20.00. A locally-produced pill costs Rp. 106.61 per set (cycle), whereas an imported pill would have a wholesale price of Rp. 125.00 per set. In the free market, one cycle of a foreign-made pill can fetch as much as Rp. 4,000.00.

It was further explained that the new factory, which will be formally opened by the minister of health and concurrently chairman of the Coordinating Body for National Family Planning, will be under the management of P. T. Kimia Farma with a staff of 55 workers.

The factory, measuring 1,300 square meters built on a 2,000 sq m piece of land, costs Rp. 845 million.

The raw material for the production of 18 million sets of pills per year originate from USAID. The factory has a full production capacity of 25 to 30 million sets annually without any addition of equipment.

By 26 November 1979 the factory had trial produced four batches of contraceptive pills. Quality control of the product was improved after the arrival of two experts from Syntex California within the framework of USAID assistance. In the meantime, two Indonesian staffers of the Bandung factory have been sent to Syntex for a two-year study.

9300

CSO: 4213

RICE IMPORTS TO REACH 2.7 MILLION TONS IN 1980

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 25 Jan 80 p 9

[Excerpts] Indonesia will import 2.7 million tons of rice this year, which means 600,000 more tons than last year, the Vice Minister of Cooperatives and concurrently chief of National Logistics Board, Bustami Arifin, said at the president's residence today.

A total of 1.15 million tons will be here by the end of the first 3 months-- 334,000 tons to arrive in January, another 329,000 tons in February and the remainder of 362,000 tons in March.

Bustami, who is also Trade Minister ad interim, added that most of the rice will be imported from Thailand, that is, 650,000 tons. Some 250,000 tons will come from the United States, 150,000 tons from Japan, another 150,000 tons from Burma, 25,000 tons from Australia, and the rest from some other countries. An agreement is being negotiated with Pakistan to import 100,000 tons of rice.

He said that when food will be scarce during the "paceklik" season, the government will release large quantities of rice stock into the market. For instance, 2,000 tons will be "dropped" everyday in Central Java, while another 5,000 tons will be allotted to Jakarta, thereby putting the rice price under control.

Bustami divulged that in foreign markets, the current price of rice has gone up to about U.S. \$340 to U.S. \$370 per ton, and by the time it arrives at Jakarta, its C.I.F. price becomes U.S. \$380 to U.S. \$400 per ton.

He said that in the past 10 years, Indonesia's rice production has increased by 6.2 million tons. In 1969-70 Indonesia produced 11.7 million tons and by 1978-79 the figure has risen to 17.9 million tons. During the same period under review, Indonesia imported a total of 14 million tons of rice.

Apart from the huge imports of rice, Indonesia also bought 7.7 million tons of wheat from foreign countries.

Bustani said that world rice production has remained at about 103 million tons per year without any record of increase.

He revealed that Indonesia plans to import corn from the United States to be used as feed, adding that he is studying closely the amount of corn needed for cattle and other domestic animals.

Normally, he said, U.S. corn are exported to the Soviet Union, but due to its embargo against Russia, Indonesia will take advantage of the corn originally slated for export to the Soviet Union.

Besides, Indonesia is also planning to import beans amounting to 140,000 tons.

9300
CSO: 4213

IGGI AID FOR FISCAL 1980-81 ESTIMATED AT \$2 BILLION

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 19 Jan 80 p 1

[Excerpts] Jan de Koning, Dutch minister of cooperation and development and concurrently chairman of Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI), stated that his 10-day visit to Indonesia was to strengthen its economy, because Indonesia would be able to play an important role in world economy in the future.

He expressed this opinion before the press at Halim Perdanakusuma airport before departing to Pakistan, Tanzania and Amsterdam last evening.

The IGGI chairman also said that in view of the uneven distribution of Indonesia's population, it is essential to launch a transmigration program or at least to evacuate half a million inhabitants on Java to some other island during the current Third Five-Year Plan.

After inspecting several projects involving public health, transmigration and social problems, Minister Jan de Koning concluded that these projects were one or two years behind schedule. "This is a serious matter," he asserted.

For a developing country such as Indonesia, Jan de Koning continued, the important thing is to develop small industries to support the reconstruction which is being undertaken, and in this way unemployment can be reduced.

Touching on IGGI's aid to Indonesia, he was of the opinion that, generally speaking, cooperation between Indonesia and the donor countries is good enough. If there is some tardiness, it is simply a matter of procedure involving terms and conditions put forward by both the recipient and donor countries.

For the fiscal year 1980/81, IGGI will give aid to Indonesia totalling U.S. \$2 billion, but this will depend on the outcome of the next IGGI meeting to be held in April. For the fiscal year 1979/80, IGGI already earmarked aid amounting to U.S. \$2.775 billion.

The IGGI chairman believed that the aid already given to Indonesia so far has been properly used.

ONE WEATHER SATELLITE STATION BUILT, ANOTHER PLANNED

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 19 Jan 80 p 1

[Excerpts] The National Aviation and Space Agency (LAPAN) succeeded in building one high-resolution weather satellite station at Pekayan village, Cijantung, Jakarta West at the beginning of the first year of the Third Five-Year Plan.

This earth station, under the management of LAPAN experts, is capable of receiving data from TIROS-N and NOAA-6 which are in polar orbit. At the time when these weather satellites are orbiting between 80 and 134 degrees east longitude, the weather station can intercept weather information for a length of 5,200 kilometers.

The TIROS-N and NOAA-6 satellites orbit twice a day at a height of 810 to 870 km and, thanks to their high resolution, they can send out sharp regional pictures of cloud cover, so that in four orbital rounds they are capable of providing sharp and detailed weather information data covering practically all Indonesian territory.

Dr Pramono Mardio, director of SATCA LAPAN PROJECT, explained that besides this orbiting weather satellite, his agency will also make good use of a geo-stationary weather satellite to make the existing weather data more complete. He added that another earth station to scrutinize the orbiting weather satellite in the geo-stationary manner is being readied by LAPAN at present.

This earth station will be located close to the existing one, also at Pekayan, Cijantung. The necessary parts for the development of the projected earth station will be produced domestically in so far as it is possible to do so. Only certain parts which cannot be produced in Indonesia will be imported from abroad, said Dr Pramono. It is hoped that this earth station will be able to intercept weather data from Japan-owned Geostationary Meteorological Satellite (GMS).

A geostationary satellite orbits at practically the same speed as the earth's revolution, so that it appears as if the satellite remains stationary above a certain region. And this GMS weather satellite is situated at 140 degrees east longitude coordinate above the equator, approximately over Jayapura in Irian Jaya. At its height of 35,000 km, this weather satellite can cover an area about 9,000 [sic] square kilometers or one-fourth of the globe.

9300
CSO: 4213

GARUDA AIRCRAFT PURCHASES, OPERATIONS DATA

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 28 Jan 80 p 3

[Excerpts] In mid-1980 Garuda Indonesian Airways [GIA] will begin putting into operation wide-bodied Boeing-747 aircraft for its international routes. The arrival in Jakarta of four such airplanes, each with a capacity of 446 passengers is expected between May and August this year.

The giant planes, which are capable of carrying a maximum cargo load of 97 tons (besides the passengers), and are worth U.S. \$59 million each (more than Rp. 35 billion), have been purchased from Boeing Aircraft Corporation in Seattle, Washington.

Besides making use of the wide-bodied B-747s and DC-10s (which are already in operation), Garuda will also use wide-bodied Air Bus A-300 planes for domestic flights. Six such air buses are scheduled to arrive here between 1981 and 1982.

According to information from GIA, this 31-year-old enterprise now owns 67 airplanes. They are 28 Fokker F-28 1000s, five F-28 MK 4000s, 24 DC-9s, six DC-10s and four Boeing 747s, with a total seating capacity of 8,103 persons.

Garuda's aviation network will be expanded with the projected opening of a regular Jakarta-London line come November. Garuda is also striving to get extra landing rights in London during the summer season.

According to available data valid at the end of November 1979 Garuda has 412 pilots, 7 foreign pilots, 37 flight engineers, 714 stewards and stewardesses, besides 4,429 other workers.

Speaking at its 31st anniversary commemoration last 26 January, GIA's secretary, RAJ Lumenta said that in 1979 the airline company carried 4,244,880 passengers, of whom 3,515,789 were on domestic flights. Compared with 1978, during which GIA carried 3,932,274 passengers, this meant an increase of 8 percent.

According to Lumenta, seen from the available seating capacity, this means that on the average only 52.2 percent of the seats were occupied. Flights to Europe indicated the lowest number of passengers, namely 46.8 percent of the available seats, followed by flights to Hong Kong 47.3 percent, Tokyo 49.5 percent, Australia 52.5 percent and to Singapore/Kuala Lumpur 54.2 percent. For domestic flights, 63 percent of the available seats were filled on the average.

Compared with 1978, the flights to Tokyo indicated a remarkable increase in passengers to 85 percent of the seating capacity, thanks to the use of DC-10s which replaced the smaller DC-8s and the increase in flight frequency from three to five times per week. In contrast, the passengers for the flights to Singapore/Kuala Lumpur dropped by 11 percent.

According to provisional data, GIA's revenue from domestic transportation of passengers and cargoes totaled around Rp. 105 billion, while from international flights Rp. 91 billion. The company has been making a profit since 1978, except the year of 1979 when its revenue dropped as a result of the devaluation of the Indonesian currency effective 15 November 1978 and the grounding of DC-10 planes for three weeks.

9300
CSO: 4213

BRIEFS

NEW OILFIELD IN SUMATRA--NATOMAS, a contractor, has found a prime oilfield in an offshore contract area where the company owns 53 percent of the total shares. This new oilfield, named "Krisna," located in Southeast Sumatra, has been strengthened by the acquisition of four exploration wells which passed the tests from various zones of Talang Akar and Batu Raja formations, upper side and below. The entire oilfield has a production capacity of 21,000 barrels of oil per day. Krisna Oilfield represents a most significant find in Southeast Sumatra since Cinta-Rama Oilfield was found in September 1970. This potential oil region is situated 17 miles north of the Cinta-Rama oil production complex. NATOMAS plans to speed up its exploration operations during 1980 to determine the potential oil reserves found in Krisna Oilfield. First production of the platform at Krisna Oilfield should begin toward the end of this year. Cinta-Rama represents the most successful offshore oilfield in the said region, with a daily production of more than 174 million barrels. [Excerpts] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 24 Jan 80 p 1,7] 9300

CSO: 4213

'VODK' REPORTS ENEMY CASUALTIES, BATTLE ACTIVITIES

Battambang Casualties

BK251418 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 22 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas continue to intensify attacks on the enemy aggressors, destroying more of their manpower every day in order to fulfill and overfulfill the March targets.

"The Battambang Battlefield:

"Samlot District--On 7 and 8 March we attacked the Vietnamese at O Ampuk and Phnum Ta Khen, killing 11 and wounding 15. On 11 March we attacked them at (O Totoeng Sla) near Phnum Pream, killing seven and wounding nine. On 13 and 14 March we attacked them at (O Sleng), west of O Choar, and ambushed a platoon sallying out of Phum Chumteng Luoch along a newly blazed trail, killing 24, wounding 17 and destroying a drum-magazine gun and 2 AK's. On 15 and 16 March we attacked the Vietnamese at Phnum Monorom, at points north, east and west of O Choar, at a point near Bor Lang, south of Phum Chumteng Luoch, at Sre Andong, and at O Chrap, and intercepted two platoons proceeding from Salmot westward along the newly blazed trail, from O Chrap westward and from O Totiek, killing 61 and wounding 48 while 17 others were killed and 21 wounded when they ran into our minefields and secondary ambushes. We also destroyed a B-40, a 60-mm mortar, a military building and a fortification line."

In Bavel, we attacked or ambushed the Vietnamese at Hill No 182 and Phum Ampil Pram Daeum, O Lhong and O Da on 12, 13, 16 and 17 March, killing or wounding 96, including a battalion commander, who was killed in an ambush between Hill No 182 and O Da, and setting ablaze 3 military buildings.

"On these battlefields, we killed or wounded 326 enemy troops, including a Vietnamese battalion commander; destroyed four military buildings and a 60-mm mortar, and seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and materiel."

Western Provinces Battles

BK251420 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 23 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas are destroying more enemy manpower and protecting their own forces, people and bases well.

On the southwestern front, we attacked the Vietnamese in Tramkak District on 20, 21, 23, 24 and 25 February, killing or wounding 77; in Chhuk District on 24 and 25 February, killing or wounding 63; in Tuk Meas District on 22, 25, 26 and 27 February, killing or wounding 51, and in Angkor Chey District between 25 and 27 February, killing or wounding 30.

"The Kompong Som Battlfield:

"On 9 and 10 March we attacked the Vietnamese at the oil refinery, at O Chheuteal and in Kompong Som town, killing 22 and wounding 12. On 11 March a company of Vietnamese troops conducting an operation near the (Stoeng Hau) area fell into our ambush, suffering 31 killed and 12 wounded with scores of other losses in mine explosions."

We attacked the Vietnamese at various points in Baribo District, Kompong Chhnang Province, on 22, 23 and 24 February, killing or wounding 58.

We attacked them many times in western Leach District on 10, 11, 12 and 13 March, killing or wounding 123 and liberating a position.

From 15 to 29 February and on 14 March we killed or wounded 58 enemy troops on the Moung District battlefield.

On 18 and 20 March we attacked the Vietnamese at Chamkar S'am in Samlot District, Battambang Province, killing or wounding 10.

Our comrades in arms in the Srei Snam mountainous region, Siem Reap Province, on 19 and 20 March attacked the Vietnamese positions in Phum (Bat Srakav), Phum (Chramab), Phum (Don Sok) and Phum (Tram Kang), killing 16, wounding 12 and liberating all these villages. "They are continuing to attack and destroy the Vietnamese enemy at Phum Toek Thla."

[Word indistinct] all these fronts, we put out of action more than 600 enemy troops; seized a quantity of arms, ammunition and materiel, and liberated a position in western Leach District and Phum (Bat Srakav), Phum (Chramab), Phum (Don Sok) and Phum (Tram Kang) in Srei Snam District, Siem Reap Province.

16 March Battle Report

BK191030 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 17 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country are determined to fight resolutely in order to end the current dry season with success by striving to implement our three combat tactics more effectively and completely fulfill all the monthly plans.

The Preah Vihear Battlefield: /

Choam Khsan District--On 1 March a group of Vietnamese troops moving from Ph'av to Bak Anlung hit our mines, suffering three killed and one wounded. On 8 and 9 March we attacked the Vietnamese in the vicinity of (O Sambo) and Chheuteal Kong Road, killing six and wounding five. They set off our mines, suffering 10 killed and 5 wounded.

The Oddar Meanchey Battlefield:

Trapeang Trav Front--We attacked the Vietnamese at Trapeang Trav on 8 March, when they moved from Trapeang Trav on 9 March, and at areas north and east of Trapeang Trav on 10 March, putting out of action 187 enemy troops, including several killed or wounded by our punji traps and in mine explosions. We also destroyed 3 B-40's and 5 AR-15's and seized 37 mines.

The Battambang Battlefield:

Bavel District--We attacked the Vietnamese on the road from Ampil Pram Daeum to Anlung Thmar on 7 and 8 March, killing 11, wounding 3, setting ablaze a 10-wheel truck, destroying 10 AK's and seizing 50 sacks of rice. On 8 March militiamen at Prey Totoeng, Phum Choam Sla and Phum Kompong Chhnang attacked the Vietnamese, killing eight and wounding three. We attacked the Vietnamese at Hill No 187 west of Kamreang, at Hill No 182, in an area east of Phnum Ta Sok, at Phum Cham Chap and at Kamreang between 9 and 12 March, killing or wounding 199, with a number of others killed or wounded in mine explosions and by our punji traps.

Mongkolborei District--We attacked the Vietnamese north of Phum (Samlanh) on 9 and 10 March, and west of Phum Kompong Chhnang, at Phum (Slapo), Phum Kompong Chhnang, Phum (Poinam) and Phum Daeum Svay between 10 and 12 March, killing or wounding 49 with 4 others killed and 2 wounded by our punji traps and in mine explosions.

Sisophon front south of Route 5--We attacked the Vietnamese at Phnum Malai, O Sralau and Banteay Ti Muoy between 6 and 10 March and at Kdol Dam south of Phum Samraong and at Phnum Malai between 11 and 13 March, killing or wounding 69 and seizing 10 mines.

The western Leach District Battlefield:

We attacked the Vietnamese many times between 5 and 9 March, killing or wounding 116 enemy troops, seizing an AR-15 and liberating a position.

"In sum, on all these battlefields we put out of action 684 enemy troops, destroyed a truck, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition, mines and materiel and liberated a Vietnamese position in western Leach District."

Oddar Meanchey Combatants

BK241047 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 21 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpt] In order to contribute to smashing the massive dry-season suppression campaign of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and exterminators of race throughout the country, our comrades in arms on the northern region battlefield have united as one to implement the three combat tactics in a constantly vigorous and ingenious manner, intensifying guerrilla attacks on the Vietnamese enemy everywhere, pinning them down and preventing them from pulling out their troops and sending them to the battlefields in western Kampuchea, while wearing down and destroying more of their manpower daily.

From 1 to 29 February our comrades in arms on the Oddar Meanchey battlefield killed or wounded 2,685 enemy troops, including a company commander; destroyed 8 enemy fortifications, 2 C-25 radio sets, 10 B-40's and B-41's, 4 M-30's, 2 12.7-mm machine guns and 6 AK's; and seized 4 M-79's, an AK, 9,005 AK rounds, 42 grenades, 33 B-40 rounds, 55 60-mm mortar shells, 750 M-30 rounds, 2,139 mines and a large quantity of materiel. We seized complete control of the Trapeang Tau area, the roads north and south of Trapeang Tau and four enemy defense lines.

In setting up the primitive weapons system, our comrades in arms planted 5,647,812 punji stakes and produced 903,253 of them, dug 984 punji pitfalls, set 780 new automatic bows and felled 693 trees to block roads.

Kompong Cham, Battambang Action

BK241049 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 21 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country are intensifying their attacks on the enemy, inflicting heavy losses on them and liberating more territory.

On the Kompong Cham-Khompong Thom Battlefield, we attacked the enemy in Cheung Prey District on 20 January killing six and wounding four, at various localities and villages in Stung Trang District in February causing 119 casualties and in Santuk Leu District on 24 January and 2 February killing five and wounding four. In Preah Vihear Province, we attacked the enemy in Sangkum Thmei District on 29 February, in Kulen District from 10 to 12 February, at Boeng Chek on 28 February and at Ph'av on 16 March, killing or wounding 54 enemy troops.

The Battambang Battlefield:

In daily attacks from 13 to 16 March we put out of action 181 enemy troops in Thmar Puek District.

On 11, 15, 16 and 17 March we attacked the enemy in many localities and villages of Samlot District causing 60 killed or wounded.

"In sum, on all these battlefields, we killed or wounded 433 enemy troops, including 2 commanders; destroyed 2 trucks and a 60-mm mortar, seized a quantity of arms, ammunition and materiel; and completely liberated Samraong and O Ta Sek villages in Stung Trang District, Kompong Cham Province."

Battle Reports

BK231159 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 20 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country continue to raise high the guerrilla war banner, using all kinds of primitive weapons and blocking various enemy transportation routes.

Our guerrillas in Kompong Thom ambushed two Vietnamese trucks on the road from Thmar Samlieng to Tangren on 25 February, damaging the two trucks, killing seven troops and wounding seven others.

In Battambang's Samlot District we attacked the Vietnamese at Kanhchang and O Reangkhen on 15 and 16 March, killing 17, wounding 11 and seizing 650 AK rounds.

In Pailin District, we attacked them at Spean Dek on Route 10 and at Kandie Hao, Pang Roloem and other localities on 12, 13, 14 and 15 March, killing or wounding 89 enemy troops.

The Koh Kong Battlefield:

In Koh Kong Leu we attacked the Vietnamese at Kirivong on 3 and 4 March, killing or wounding 143. In Koh Kong Kraom we attacked them at Thmar Sar and Prek Kantuot as well as other areas also on 3 and 4 March, killing or wounding 71. In Preah Vihear Province's Sangkum Thmei District, our people, army and guerrillas launched heavy attacks against the Vietnamese in their position at Phum Pratheat on 3 March, killing 45, including a company commander; wounding 22; destroying 2 enemy command posts, an ammunition depot, a rice depot, a salt depot, a B-40, a machinegun and 7 AK's; seizing a quantity of war materiel, and completely liberating the Phum Pratheat position.

"In sum, on all these battlefields, we killed or wounded 412 enemy troops, including a commander, set ablaze or damaged 3 trucks, destroyed a

60-mm mortar, 2 command posts, an ammunition depot and a military building, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and war materiel, and completely liberated the Phum Pratheath position in Sangkum Thmei District, Preah Vihear Province."

Latest Battle Statistics

BK211230 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 18 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country are intensifying guerrilla attacks against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors in order to destroy as many of their effectives as possible and to finish off the dry season with complete success.

On the Ratanakiri battlefield on 6, 12, 15, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25 and 27 February we attacked the Vietnamese enemy aggressors at various localities and villages in the Lomphat-bor Kev area, killing or wounding 169 and destroying a truck.

On 5 February we attacked them on Route 19 in Andong Meas District, killing 17 and wounding 21. "Also on 5 February, after we repeatedly punished their effectives, planted punji stakes, added new punji pitfalls and felled more trees to block their ways, we attacked the Vietnamese in Andong Meas District, completely liberating and controlling the area from O Dambok to Andong Meas District seat on the northern San River bank up to the Lao border, killing 54 and wounding 47. From 20 to 29 February we launched 15 attacks against the enemy above Veun Sai, killing 25 and wounding 6."

In Mondolkiri Province, we attacked them at various localities, including Kaoh Nhek, Krangteh, Soksan, Sneng Krabei, Sre Sangkum, Sre Krapeu and Rovak on 5, 8, 11, 13, 17, 20 and 24 February killing or wounding 106 Vietnamese troops.

"In sum, on all these battlefields, we killed or wounded 445 enemy troops, destroyed a truck, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and materiel, and seized complete control of the area from O Dambok to Andong Meas District seat on the north bank of the San River up to the Lao border in Ratanakiri Province."

SRV Casualties Noted

BK211232 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 19 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Since the beginning of the dry season, the Vietnamese have sent more troops to the Koh Kong-Kompong Som Battlefield to crush our army and guerrillas in an attempt to push northward, but to no avail. With all primitive weapons imaginable, our guerrillas have launched intensified guerrilla attacks against them, destroying many of their effectives and successfully smashing all of the Vietnamese operations. They have also

liberated more territory. "In February, our comrades in arms set their monthly target at 800 enemy losses. However, on the battlefield from 1 to 29 February, they killed or wounded 1,114 enemy including 2 battalion commanders and 3 company commanders. They destroyed 2 rowboats, a 37-hp motorboat, a truck, a C-25 radio set, a 60-mm mortar, an 82-mm mortar and a 12.8-mm machinegun, and seized a rowboat, 4 pistols, 4 B-40's, an M-30, 11 M-79's, 40 AK's, 5,990 AK rounds, 75 M-79 rounds, 6 claymore mines and a quantity of materiel. They smashed a massive division-strong suppression operation of the Vietnamese enemy on 1 February and a massive two-regiment-strong suppression operation on 15 February, and completely liberated Themar Bang District of Koh Kong Province. Compared to the monthly plan, our comrades in arms have fulfilled their task by 139 percent, that is, 39 percent above plan. "As for the results of the efforts to set up a primitive weapons system, our comrades in arms planted 19,573 punji stakes, made an additional 8,642 punji stakes, dug 235 more punji pitfalls, set 126 new automatic bows and felled 270 trees to block roads."

Western Kampuchea Fighting

BK211234 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 19 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas are attacking the Vietnamese day and night, wearing down and destroying more of their effectives.

The Battambang Battlefield:

Samlot District--We killed or wounded 298 Vietnamese troops, destroyed a 60-mm mortar and 2 trucks, and liberated a position atop Sre Ponlok Hill following a series of attacks on various localities and villages, including Samlot, Ta Sanh, Chhuk Thmei, Monorom, O Choar, Phnum Ta Ten and Chankei Luoche between 7 and 16 March.

"Bavel District--From 11 to 13 March we attacked the Vietnamese at (Phum Va), at Hill No 182, at a point west of (Chamnip Rumduol) Hill, at Hill No 100, at a point east of Phnum Ta Sok, at Hill No 187, and between Phum Ta Sok and Hill No 100, killing 54, wounding 59, destroying a 12.7-mm machinegun and seized 10 M-69 mines and a quantity of war materiel." In addition to other attacks, we killed or wounded 135 enemy troops and blew up two military buildings.

"Mongkolborei District--On 11 March at Phum (P'ien), the Vietnamese stepped on and triggered off our mines, killing five, including a regimental commander, and wounding three others.

"The Preah Vihear Battlefield:

"On 11 February, the Vietnamese ran over our mines south of Preah Vihear Hill in Tbeng Meanchey District, killing 12 and wounding 2. On 14 and 15 February we attacked them at O Bambuor and in the valley north of

0 Sambuor in Choam Khsan District, killing 22, and wounding 11 while 4 others were killed and 2 wounded when they stepped on our mines. We destroyed a B-40 gun.

"In sum, on all these battlefields we killed or wounded 514 enemy troops, including 2 Vietnamese commanders, destroyed 2 trucks, 3 military buildings, a command post, a C-25 radio set and a 60-mm mortar, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and military materiel, and liberated a Vietnamese position in Samlot District, Battambang Province."

Northwestern Front Battles

BK121215 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 8 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country have effectively implemented our three combat tactics and vigorously intensified attacks against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, inflicting more heavy losses on them, routing their offensive drives in various areas and liberating more villages to our people's side.

The Battambang Battlefield:

Bavel District--We attacked the Vietnamese at (0 Thipsida) and on top of Phnum Tbal Hill on 26 February and at a place east of 0 Lhong on 28 February, killing 20, wounding 24 and destroying a (Koronov) gun.

Mongkolborei District--We attacked the Vietnamese west of Phum Lovea on 26 February, killing two and wounding one.

The Sisophon front south of Route 5--We attacked the Vietnamese south of 0 Sralau and at 0 Sampor on 7 February, killing 11 and wounding 15.

Thmar Puok District--We attacked the Vietnamese at several points between 16 and 29 February, killing 59, wounding 69 and destroying 2 drum-magazine machineguns, a B-40, an AK and a M-79. On 25 February three Vietnamese troops surrendered to our guerrillas. They brought an AK along.

The Siem Reap Battlefield:

Svay Leu District--On 7 February the Vietnamese troops moved out to launch offensive in three columns. We routed all three columns at Phum Trapeang, killing 33 enemy troops and wounding 22 others. On 14 February the Vietnamese moving out of Boeng Mealea and Svay Leu to raid Phum Tbal ran into our ambush, suffering six killed and four wounded. They also hit our mine, suffering two killed and three wounded. We seized 250 SK rounds.

Chikreng District--We attacked the Vietnamese at an area between Phum 0 and Phum Pongro, at Phum Pongro Kraom, at Phum Khvav, (Peang Svay), 0 Kambor, Kompong Kdei market and at (Chrak Khtus) between 4 and 31 January, killing or wounding 57 enemy troops.

The Koh Kong Battlefield:

"On 1 February 1980 our comrades in arms successfully routed the large-scale offensive of the Vietnamese enemy at Thmar Bang District, killing or wounding 295 enemy troops which included 3 company commanders, destroying a 12.8-mm gun and seizing 7 AK's, 4 M-79's, 225 AK rounds, 45 M-79 rounds and a quantity of war materiel. We also totally liberated Thmar Bang District on 1 February.

"In sum, on all these battlefields we put out of action 623 enemy troops, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and war materiel and totally liberated Thmar Bang District in Koh Kong Province."

Pailin District Victory

BK121217 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 8 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our comrades in arms at the Pailin District front in Battambang Province have striven hard to fulfill the plan to crush at least 700 Vietnamese troops in February. Despite the fact that the Vietnamese troops have fired toxic gas shells through artillery pieces and mortars in a systematic and daily basis, our comrades in arms at the Pailin battlefield have successfully fulfilled their February plan.

"From 1 to 29 February our comrades in arms killed or wounded 960 enemy troops, destroyed 5 AK's and seized 3 AK's, 3,600 AK rounds, 20 B-40 rounds, 25 M-69 mines, a quantity of telephone wire and a number of canned food--which is international humanitarian aid--and war materiel. Thus, our comrades in arms fulfilled the February plan by over 137 percent, that is, overfulfilled the plan by over 37 percent. Our comrades in arms also set 22,310 punji stakes, produced 18,754 punji stakes, dug 155 new punji pitfalls and felled 392 trees to block roads."

Our comrades in arms at Pailin front in Battambang Province pledge that in March they will expand the primitive weapons system, implement the three combat tactics more effectively and intensify guerrilla attacks against the Vietnamese enemy so as to inflict more losses on it than that in February, and strive to defend and expand their own forces to the utmost.

Battle Actions Reported

BK181144 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country pledge to expand the primitive weapons systems everywhere and intensify attacks against the Vietnamese enemy so as to inflict more losses on them than in February and successfully carry out the March plan.

The Koh Kong Battlefield:

On the Koh Kong Kraom front, we attacked the Vietnamese at Hum (Navan) and Phum (Peam Toek) on 5 March; at Phum Kon Kok, Phum Prek Thom west of Andong Toek and Phum (Prey Ta Ok) on 6 March; and when they traveled by motorboat from Chiphat to Andong Toek on 7 March, killing or wounding 74 with 3 others killed and five wounded by our punji traps, and sinking a motorboat.

On the Koh Kong Leu front, we attacked the Vietnamese on top of a hill south of Phum Kirivong and at the Koh Kong crossroads on 7 March, killing 35, wounding 27, sinking 2 rowboats, seizing 10 AK's, 2 M-79's, 2 B-40's and a drum-magazine machinegun, destroying a 60-mm mortar and seizing control of half of the enemy position on top of the hill. On 8 March we attacked the Vietnamese east and south of Phum Kirivong, killing 28 and wounding 15.

The Battambang Battlefield:

Thmar Puok District--On 7 March the Vietnamese sallying out of Phum Kouk Romiet to Phum Prasat hit our mines and ran into our ambush, suffering 12 killed and 10 wounded. On 8 March the Vietnamese raided our guerrilla area in the vicinity of Sre L'a. They ran into our ambush, suffering 20 killed and 30 wounded. We destroyed a B-40 and 8 AK's. On the same day, we attacked the Vietnamese at Phum Khvav, killing 8, wounding 10 and setting an ammunition depot ablaze. On 10 March we attacked the Vietnamese at Lbaeuk Svay Leu and O Chamkar, killing 14 and wounding 21.

"In sum, on all these battlefields we put out of action 312 enemy troops, destroyed a 60-mm mortar, a motorboat and 2 rowboats, set ablaze an ammunition depot and seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and war materiel."

Sisophon Front Successes

BK181150 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] The Sisophon front south of Route 5 in Battambang Province is composed of Poipet, Phnum Malai and Mongkolborei. It is one of the hottest battlefields in the western sector of Battambang. The Vietnamese have mobilized large numbers of forces together with many artillery pieces and tanks to launch repeated offensive campaigns since the end of last rainy season in an attempt to mop up and wipe all of our guerrillas out of this front and seize full control of our guerrilla area. But so far the enemy still cannot fulfill this criminal and ferocious plan. On the contrary, it has suffered repeated defeats.

After setting up a plan to crush 900 Vietnamese troops in February, our comrades in arms on this front fought valiantly against the Vietnamese, inflicting heavy losses on them and successfully crushing their offensive.

"From 1 to 29 February, our comrades in arms put out of action 1,647 Vietnamese forces, including a commander, smashed a large-scale dry-season offensive of the Vietnamese enemy, set ablaze 2 enemy command posts and 12 10-wheel and 4-wheel trucks, destroyed a C-25 radio set, a (?Goryun V) gun, 4 M-30 machineguns, 2 B-40's, 8 AK's and a pistol, and seized 3 AK's, 182 mines, 66 grenades, 4,400 AK rounds, a quantity of B-40 and 12.7-mm rounds and a quantity of war materiel, as well as liberated a number of Vietnamese positions in Sisophon south of Route 5 and in Mongkolborei."

Our comrades in arms also planted 13,500 punji stakes, produced 9,378 new punji stakes, dug 660 new pitfalls and felled 143 trees to block roads.

291 Casualties Inflicted

BK181143 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 13 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas continue to launch widespread attacks against the Vietnamese aggressors, implementing the guerrilla war tactics to drive the enemy deeper into the quagmire.

In Battambang Province, we attacked the Vietnamese aggressors at various villages and localities in Samlot District from 3 to 9 March, killing or wounding 66. "In Pailin District, from 6 to 7 March we launched seven attacks against the enemy at Phnum Ta Ngel, Pang Roloem, Chineang Leu, Suorsdei, Chineang Kraom, Chamkar Chek and Kandie Hao, killing 25, wounding 11 and blowing up an ammo dump." We attacked them at various points on 8, 9 and 10 March, killing 39, wounding 36 others and seizing 22 mines. On this front we killed or wounded 111 enemy troops.

On the western region battlefield, in northern Baribo District on 25 January we attacked the Vietnamese at Phum Damank Cham, at a point west of Ponley and at Trapeang Chan, killing nine and wounding seven while three others were killed and four were wounded in mine explosions and by punji stakes. We destroyed one B-40 and two M-79's. On 2, 12, 15 and 29 February we attacked the Vietnamese at various points near Bannak and elsewhere, killing or wounding 114 enemy troops and seizing 500 AK rounds and 3 AK's.

"In sum, on all these battlefields, we killed or wounded 291 enemy troops, destroyed an ammunition depot and seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and materiel."

Guerrillas Attack N. Kampuchea

BK170701 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodia to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 14 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] In close unity with our people in all localities, our comrades in arms at the Trapeang Tau front in Oddar Meanchey Province have

effectively intensified their guerrilla attacks against the Vietnamese enemy, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy while successively defending our forces, localities and people.

"From 1 to 28 February our comrades in arms killed or wounded 2,231 enemy troops; destroyed 8 enemy defense lines, 5 telephone sets, 1 C-25 radio set, 2 12.7-mm machineguns, 5 M-30's, 10 B-40's and B-41's, 2 M-79's and 6 AK's; and seized control of the route south of Trapeang Tau and many enemy defense lines. We also maintain full control over the route north of Trapeang Tau and over the whole of Trapeang Tau battlefield. We also seized 4 AK-15's, 2,139 mines, 42 grenades, 55 mortar rounds, 750 M-30 rounds, 33 B-40 rounds, over 8,000 AK rounds and a quantity of other items."

Our comrades in arms are now continuing to launch their guerrilla attacks against the Vietnamese enemy everywhere.

Phum Pong Toek Liberation

BK160855 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country have implemented our three combat tactics more effectively in this dry season, thus inflicting more losses on the Vietnamese enemy and successfully defeating many of its offensive drives.

The Stung Treng Battlefield:

On 3 March our guerrillas attacked a Vietnamese position at Phum Pong Toek in Thalabarivat District on the western bank of the Mekong River, killing or wounding 37 enemy troops, seizing a drum-magazine machinegun, an M-79, a B-40, an AK, 5 CAC's, a carbine, 3,100 AK rounds, 15 grenades, 5 claymore mines and a quantity of other materiel. We totally liberated Phum Pong Toek.

The Southwest Battlefield:

Chhuk District--We attacked the Vietnamese at Phum (Sravay) on 20 January; at Phum (Arpriel), Phum (Prich), Chheuteal and Trapeang Chrey on 4 and 5 February; at Phum (Krapeu) on 7 February; at Damnak Chheukram and Trapeang Russei on 10 February; at an area east of Trapeang Tkov on 13 February; at (Prek Khmao) and (Chruk Speu) on 14 February; at (Trok O), Phum Dong, Phum Ang on 16 and 17 February; and at an area west of Chhuk market on 20 February, killing or wounding 124 enemy troops, destroying 2 trucks and seizing an AK, an M-30 and 270 AK rounds.

The Kompong Som Battlefield:

We attacked the Vietnamese at O Treh and Prek Chas on 5 March; at Toek Sap Bridge, Phum (Putthoung) and in the vicinity of Ream Wharf on 6 March, as

they were leaving the beer distillery on 7 March; and at Phum Koki on 8 March, killing or wounding 98 and seizing 12 AK's, 6 AR-15's, 2 M-79's, 2,000 AR-15 rounds and 4,000 AK rounds.

The Battambang Battlefield:

Samlot District--We attacked the Vietnamese at Phum Samlot on 4 March; west of Phum Samlot on 6 March; at O Reang Khen, Phum Thmei, Kanhcheang Kre, on the new road west of Phum Samlot and at Bor Lang on 7 March; at a point between O Reang Khen and Phum (Sre Poan) and an area between Samlot and (O Ta Ten) on 8 March, killing or wounding 73 and setting 2 trucks ablaze.

"In sum, on all these battlefields we put out of action 332 enemy troops, destroyed 4 trucks and seized a quantity of assorted weapons, ammunition, mines and other materiel. We also totally liberated Phum Pong Toek in Thalabarivat District of Stung Treng Province on the west bank of the Mekong River."

Thmar Puok Front

BK160857 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our comrades in arms in the Thmar Puok front in Battambang Province, like those in all other battlefields throughout the country, have pledged to effectively implement our three combat tactics and inflict heavy losses on the Vietnamese enemy in order to contribute to crushing the current dry-season offensive of the Vietnamese enemy.

"As a result of combat action from 1 to 29 February, our comrades in arms in Thmar Puok front put out of action 925 enemy troops, including 3 Vietnamese soldiers who surrendered, and destroyed 4 B-40's and B-41's, 4 drum-magazine machineguns, 5 AK's, an M-79, a 12.7-mm gun, an M-30 machinegun and 2 60-mm mortars. They also set ablaze a tank, destroyed a tank, an ammunition depot and a rice depot and seized a large quantity of ammunition and war materiel."

Our comrades in arms also placed 13,420 punji stakes, produced 5,750 new punji stakes, dug 98 new punji pitfalls and felled 163 trees to block roads.

Enemy Battalion Commanders Eliminated

BK160611 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 11 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas throughout the country together with people in all localities are determined to intensify attacks and inflict more heavy losses on the Vietnamese enemy in March than in February.

The Battambang Battlefield:

Samlot District--We attacked the Vietnamese at Phum Kamchang and on the new road leading to Ta Sanh on 4 March and at (O Ta Ten) and when they sallied out of O Chrap on 6 and 7 March, killing or wounding 42 enemy troops, including 5 killed and 11 wounded by our punji traps, and seized 2 AK's, a DK-82 and 700 meters of telephone wire.

Pailin District--We attacked the Vietnamese in the vicinity of O Khmaoch on 1 March, killing one and wounding two. On the same day, a Vietnamese truck hit our mine and exploded east of Pang Roloem; all 17 Vietnamese troops aboard were killed. On 4 and 5 March we launched a commando raid at Phum Dei Kraham, on (Pul) Hill, at O Ta Em and at Pang Roloem, killing 14 and wounding 15. They hit our mines and fell into our punji pitfalls, suffering 10 killed and 4 wounded. We destroyed a 12.7-mm gun and seized 2 AK's and a M-79.

Bavel District--We attacked the Vietnamese at Hill No 100 and between Phnum Ta Sok and O Lhong on 3 and 4 March; at Phum (Kamprong), Phum (Tuol Tel), Phum Samsip and Phum Toek Pus on 5 March; at Phum Ta Sok position on 7 March, and at Hill No 182 and when they moved from Phum Kamreang to Phum Samraong on 7 and 8 March, killing or wounding 187 enemy troops, setting ablaze a number of military installations and seizing 500 meters of telephone wire and a number of weapons. We also liberated the position at Phnum Ta Sok and destroyed a 12.7-mm gun.

Thmar Puok District--We attacked the Vietnamese at (Boeng Pasak) and at Phum Sdau from 3 to 5 March, killing nine and wounding four. On 5 March 450 Vietnamese troops moving from an area north of Kouk Romiet toward Chantrea temple hit our mines and ran into our ambush, suffering 15 killed and 16 wounded. On 7 March we attacked the Vietnamese at Phum Sdau, Ta Sok and Phum Sre L'or, killing 9 and wounding 19.

Koh Kong Battlefield:

"Following half a month of fierce combat, on 2 March our comrades in arms successfully routed this second offensive drive of the Vietnamese enemy, killing or wounding 178 enemy troops, including 2 battalion commanders; destroying 17 assorted weapons; and seizing 3 B-40's, 2 B-41's, 7 AK's and a quantity of ammunition rounds and war materiel. We totally liberated Thmar Bang District seat and all villages and communes in this district, such as Phum (Ta Ni), Phum Puok, Phum Thmar Bang, Phum Triek, Phum (Khmar), Phum (Kamnot), Phum (Sre Khuoch), Phum (Kaoh Khyan), Phum (Koap Phlel) and various positions along the Stoeng (Koap Phlel) River."

"In sum, on all these battlefields, including the Thmar Bang Battlefield, we put out of action 547 enemy troops, destroyed a truck and 2 12.7-mm guns, set ablaze a number of military installations, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and materiel and totally liberated Thmar Bang District in Koh Kong Province for the second time as well as the Phnum Ta Sok position in Bavel District of Battambang Province."

Battle Statistics Reported

BK180632 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 15 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Our army and guerrillas on all battlefields have intensified attacks against the Vietnamese aggressors, inflicting more losses on them.

The Battambang Battlefield:

In Samlot District, we attacked the Vietnamese in various areas between 5 and 11 March, killing or wounding 125 enemy troops, including a commander, and destroying a command post. We also liberated Phum Kanhchang on 8 March.

In Pailin District, we attacked the Vietnamese in Pailin, in an area between Sala Krau and Phnum Koy, and at Pang Roloem and Bor Tangsu between 8 and 11 March, killing or wounding 83 enemy troops and destroying a number of weapons, including an M-30.

In Bavel District, we attacked the Vietnamese at Ampil Pram Daeum, O Lhong, in an area between O Lhong and Phnum Ta Sok, at (O Thipseida) and at Hill No 187 west of Kamrieng between 4 and 10 March, killing or wounding 212, including many killed or wounded in mine explosions and by our punji traps. We destroyed an enemy command post, 2 M-30's and 4 military installations.

In Mongkolborei District, we attacked the Vietnamese at Phum (Chrak Sranal), (Sai Saman) and (Channaom) between 2 and 5 March, killing or wounding 28.

On the Sisophon front south of Route 5, we attacked the Vietnamese south of Samraong River on 7 March, killing four and wounding two.

The Oddar Meanchey Battlefield:

Trapeang Trav front--We attacked the Vietnamese at Trapeang Trav and Thnal Thom on 3 March, north of Trapeang Trav and at Phum Ku on 4 March, at Traneang Trav and Thnal Thom on 5 March, and at Trapeang Trav and north of Phum Ku on 6 March, killing or wounding 153 with 47 more killed and 53 wounded by our punji traps and in mine explosions. We also destroyed a number of weapons, including a mortar, and seized 4 mines.

The Preah Vihear Battlefield:

On 11 March we ambushed the Vietnamese moving from Bak Anlung, killing six, including a company commander.

"In sum, on all these battlefields we put out of action 713 enemy troops, including 2 commanders, destroyed a mortar and 3 machineguns, 2 command posts, 4 military installations, seized a quantity of weapons, ammunition and other items and totally liberated the Phum Kanhchang position in Samlot District of Battambang Province."

Guerrillas on Bavel Front

BK191023 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 17 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] After making plans to crush 700 Vietnamese troops in February, our comrades in arms on the Bavel Front in Battambang Province intensified their attacks against the Vietnamese by implementing the three combat tactics in a more effective way, inflicting daily losses on them and crushing their big and small offensive drives.

"From 1 to 29 February our comrades in arms killed or wounded 859 enemy troops, destroyed 2 vehicles, 3 B-40's and 5 AK's and seized 170 mines, 450 AK rounds and a quantity of war materiel." Thus, our comrades in arms overfulfilled the February plan by almost 23 percent. They have also planted new punji stakes over a length of 15 km and a width of 50 meters, produced 1,135,700 new punji stakes, dug 133 new pitfalls, set 16 booby traps and 3,980 automatic crossbows and cut 320 trees to block roads.

Battle Actions Reported

BK131100 Voice of Democratic Kampuchea [clandestine] in Cambodian to Kampuchea 2330 GMT 10 Mar 80 BK

[Summary] Since 1 March our army and guerrillas have launched attacks on various positions of the Vietnamese enemy on the Sisophon District front south of Route 5 and in Mongkolborei and Bavel districts.

On the Sisophon District front south of Route 5 we attacked the Vietnamese positions at Phnum Mali, O Sralau, O Sampor and at Phnum [name indistinct]. On the Mongkolborei front, we attacked the Vietnamese at Phnum (Kompong Chhnang) and at (O Toek Chak). On the Bavel front, we attacked them on top Phnum Tbal, Phnum (Ta Luos) and Phnum (Mul) hills, at O Lhong and (O Thipsida).

"The initial result of combat from 1 to 4 March was that we killed 37 enemy troops and wounded 43 others on the Sisophon front south of Route 5; killed 9 and wounded 7 on the Mongkolborei front; and killed 42, wounded 41 and destroyed 2 AK's and a drum-magazine machinegun on the Bavel front. We also seized 2,000 AK rounds, 10 M-60 mines and totally liberated Phnum Tbal, Phnum (Ta Luos) and Phnum (Mul) hill tops and the O Lhong positions."

Our army and guerrillas on the Sisophon District front south of Route 5 and in Mongkolborei and Bavel districts are launching further attacks against the Vietnamese.

CSO: 4212

BRIEFS

EDUCATION DELEGATION RETURNS--Vientiane, 16 Mar (KPL)--A delegation of the Education, Sports and Religious Affairs Ministry headed by Phou Latsaphon, member of the Lao National Commission for Cooperation With UNESCO, arrived here on 13 March after attending the UNESCO conference on personnel training in Asia held in Katmandu, capital of the Kingdom of Nepal. The delegation was met at the airport by Lao members of the said commission. [Text] [BK180711 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK]

SRV SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AID--Vientiane, 16 Mar (KPL)--The administrative committee of Ha Son Binh Province of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam on 10 March presented Luang Prabang Province with a quantity of school and sport equipment. Speaking at the hand-over ceremony, Khampheui Chanthasouk, representative of Luang Prabang administrative committee, said that this aid is regarded as a special fraternal solidarity and cooperation existing between the Lao and Vietnamese peoples, especially between those of the two provinces. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 16 Mar 80 BK]

PUBLIC WORKS ACHIEVEMENTS--Vientiane, 12 Mar (KPL)--Thirty-two bridges were built and 1,500 kilometers of road were repaired by the Ministry of Communications, Public Works and Transport in 1979. During this period, the workers of the said ministry also transported more than 200 tons of goods to be distributed throughout the country and provided transport to more than 217 million times to passengers. [as received] Many important projects, especially the construction of the 8,000 cubic metres of petrol reservoir and a machinery repairing workshop in Dong Chong were also built by the public works workers last year. The Ministry of Communications, Public Works and Transport has also carried out feasibility studies to build a ferry quay in Vientiane, a 150-bed hospital in Vientiane Province and a 60-bed hospital in Xieng Khouang Province. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK]

JOURNALISTS TRAINING COURSE--Vientiane, 10 Mar (KPL)--The first journalist course was closed here this morning under the chairmanship of its director Chanthon Thiangthepvongsa. Present on this occasion were

Ounheuan Phounsavat, deputy minister of propaganda, information, culture and tourism, [and] Chanthi Deuansavan, acting director of the news agency and press department. Dang Kien, head of the VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCY in Vientiane and the Vietnamese professor in journalism were also present at the ceremony. Talking to the first batch of trained journalists who come from all the provinces of Laos, Ounheuan Phounsavat appealed to the journalists to do all they can to participate in the improving of the propaganda and information network in the country. Vice-Minister Phounsavat also praised the successful cooperation between the LAO NEWS AGENCY (KPL) and the Vietnamese counterpart (VNA) in this field of journalist training. The 1979-80 journalist school which lasted for 6 months had 73 students from all provinces enrolled. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 10 Mar 80 BK]

AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE--Vientiane, 8 Mar (KPL)--The second annual nationwide conference on agriculture and agricultural co-operatives was closed at the Tha Ngon Central Agricultural School on March 5. Present at the closing ceremony were Khamsouk Sai-gnaseng, and Kham-uan Boupha, respectively minister and deputy minister of agriculture, forestry and irrigation; Khamsen Vongnokeo, deputy head of the leading committee for agricultural co-operation of the party CC; other agricultural cadres together with foreign experts and representatives of international organizations in Laos. Addressing the gathering, Khamsouk Sai-gnaseng stressed the 1980 and the first 5-year plans on agricultural collectivization of the party and state. He appealed to all participants of the conference to strive harder in order to concretize the party and state policies. The conference was attended by 96 agricultural cadres from all the 13 provinces of the country. [Text] [BK111405 Vientiane KPL in English 0937 GMT 8 Mar 80 BK]

VIENTIANE INDUSTRY, TRADE CONFERENCE--Vientiane, 6 Mar (KPL)--The annual conference of the industry and trade service of the Vientiane Province and city was opened here on March 4 under the chairmanship of Thongkhet Soulivong, head of the said service. More than 300 cadres and workers from the various industry and trade services and factories of Vientiane Province attended the conference. Chanmi Douangboutdi, minister to the premier's office and head of the leading committee of Vientiane Province and city, was present at the opening ceremony. The conference, which will last for 7 days, will review last year's work, and adopt its 1980 industry and trade plan. The conference will also study the seventh resolution of the party. [BK111405 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 6 Mar 80 BK]

TRADE UNIONS AWARDS--Vientiane, 10 Mar (KPL)--The Federation of Lao Trade Unions [FLTU], on March 8, held a ceremony to confer medals and congratulatory certificates of the government to its cadres. Present at the ceremony were Sanan Souththichak, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, president of the Federation of Lao Trade Unions and minister of communications, public vice president

of the FLTU and head of the nationality committee. [sentence as received] Representatives of the National Medal Institute and mass organisations were also on hand. On this occasion, 14 cadres were awarded with medals. The awards include the third class Itsala (freedom) orders, the first, second and third class victorious orders and the French colonialist and U.S. imperialist resistant orders. Two cadres were awarded with congratulatory certificates of the government. Sanan Soutthichak, on behalf of the party and government, congratulated all the award winners. [Text] [BK111405 Vientiane KPL in English 0919 GMT 10 Mar 80 BK]

CSO: 4220

KUALA LUMPUR: 83 COMMUNIST TERRORISTS KILLED LAST YEAR

BK250814 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0630 GMT 25 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Security forces had killed 83 communist terrorists last year. They were eliminated at the Malaysian-Thai border, Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak.

In 1978, the forces killed 33 terrorists at the Malaysian-Thai border and 29 in Peninsular Malaysia. This year alone, a total of 10 terrorists were killed.

These figures were given by the Inspector General of Police Tan Sri Haniff Omar at the oath taking ceremony to mark police day in Kuala Lumpur today. Similar celebrations were held throughout the country. The theme of this year's celebrations is "Serve with Utmost Discipline."

Tan Sri Haniff said the security forces had also destroyed several communist vehicles at the Malaysian-Thai border. He added that the underground activities of the communist movement and their organizations were also suppressed due to operations launched by the police last year. A total of 418 of their members and supporters were captured and various equipment and arms were confiscated.

Tan Sri Haniff also said police today began a new radio link direct with Interpol personnel throughout the world. He said the link was made through Japan, which was the Interpol communications center for Asia. It was conducted [as heard] with the cooperation of the telecommunications department.

Tan Sri Haniff said with the establishment of the radio link and the existing Telex communications, the police, particularly the Interpol division, would be able to further improve its international contact in wiping out international criminals.

Tan Sri Haniff believes that international crimes would increase in the future. To prepare for this, the chiefs of police of neighboring countries, like Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Brunei, would hold a seminar with their Malaysian counterparts on Saturday [29 March]. They will discuss matters of dadah [drugs] and relations between forces concerned to eradicate international crimes. The historical event is the first of its kind to be held in this region.

SOVIET TROOPS MISLED ON GOING TO AFGHANISTAN

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 17 Jan 80 p 1

[Article by Staff Reporter: "From One Uzbek To Another: 'We Were Misled. We Had Come To Fight American And Chinese Forces. Soviet Muslim Soldiers Are Kept In The Dark. We Have No Alternative Because Of Our Families'; Majority Are Muslims Among Occupying Soviet Forces; Afghan Freedom Fighter Speaks To Soviet Soldier"]

[Text] Karachi, 16 January--The Soviet soldiers sent to Afghanistan, the majority of whom are Muslims, hail from Tadzhistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. This was disclosed by an Afghan freedom fighter, Sung Mohammad, who has his own roots in the Uzbek nation. [Mohammad said:] "Asked why they had come to Afghanistan, one Soviet soldier, who was a Muslim and an Uzbek, told me that Soviet troops were here because they were told that American and Chinese forces had entered Afghanistan. Therefore, he said, they had come to fight these forces. I asked him if he has seen any American or Chinese soldiers? To this he gave a negative answer.

"I told him that it was an internal matter, and that Muslim freedom fighters were fighting people from the Flag Party in order to protect themselves from Socialist-Community tyranny. Hearing this, the [Soviet] soldier recalled how Muslims of Uzbekistan and Tadzhikistan had struggled against Soviet soldiers for 16 years. It is a pity that at that time no Muslim country helped them. Indeed, it is a strange twist of irony, he said, that today Muslim soldiers have been sent to subdue a Muslim country. If that is true, I responded, then he should join us in our holy struggle against the Soviets. This he cannot do, he answered, in a rather dejected tune, because their wives and children are in the Soviet Union and would be killed."

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CSO: 4211

REFUGEES BEING MOVED TO SIND, PUNJAB

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 9 Mar 80 p 1

[Article by M. I. Lashkar]

[Text] Peshawar, March 8: While the influx of Afghan refugees from across the border continues unabated, no official decision has so far been taken to shift them deep inside the country.

Disclosing this, a spokesman of refugee administration here told THE MUSLIM, that the entire lot of refugees was lodged in camps in the two provinces--NWFP and Baluchistan. He said their status was strictly of refugees and they were being lodged in camps, set up in these two provinces. The facilities to lodge refugees at present were available only in these provinces, he added.

Commenting on the reports that some refugee families had arrived in the Punjab and Sind recently, the spokesman said they were the unregistered ones and their number was quite high. According to him. Those who had gone to these provinces were not being provided with any facility from the refugee administration. If they were being provided any help, it was being mobilised by charitable organisations and the local civil administrations, he added.

Explaining the position the spokesman said that before transfer of refugees to the Punjab and Sind, it was necessary to extend the jurisdiction of the refugee administration to these provinces which had not been done so far.

Similarly, he said, a decision to this effect might also be needed, if the question of permanent settlement of the refugees, was ever considered. This could not be done or at least was not necessary under the present circumstances, the spokesman said and added, Pakistan had accepted the refugees and was looking after them on purely temporary basis with the hope that a favourable situation would be created in Afghanistan for their return to their homes. "This was our real and formal stand," he added.

Meanwhile, statistics available here indicate that the number of refugees was steadily going up. Last December when Russia intervened in Afghanistan, the number of registered Afghan refugees in NWFP was 342,076. The number rose to 389,072 in January and by the end of February, the number had up by some 80,000. The present number today (March 8, 1980) was 482,488.

Arrival of some 150 persons in Dir and some 125 families in Bajaur were reported today who are yet to be registered.

CSO: 4220

AGRICULTURAL POLICY INSURES FAIR RETURN TO FARMERS

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 13 Mar 80 p 4

[Article by Muhammad Ishaque Abbasi]

[Text] Agriculture is the backbone of Pakistan's economy and accounts for a substantial part of the Gross National Product, exports, and raw material and provides employment to more than 70 percent of the people living in rural areas. The performance of this sector so far has not been very satisfactory, as this sector is handicapped with low production, small incomes, marginal savings and nominal investment which, in turn, yields low production. Efforts have, however, been made from time to time to expedite the pace of production, which has resulted in some improvement, yet it is still far below the optimum level.

The available statistics indicate the following annual average growth in the use of resources and productivity during the last nine years:

Resource-Use

--Better seed distribution:	17.50 percent
--Fertilizer consumption	13.43 percent
--Water availability	2.64 percent
--Plant protection measures	17.95 percent
--Number of tractors	19.94 percent
--Number of tube wells	7.83 percent

Productivity

--Wheat	3.88 percent
--Rice	3.71 percent
--Maize	2.11 percent
--Bajra	1.52 percent
--Barley	2.27 percent
--Total foodgrains	3.42 percent
--Sugarcane	1.25 percent
--Cotton	0.01 percent

It may be mentioned here that the production of cash crops has exhibited an erratic and irregular trend. During the period under review the production of cotton declined six times followed by sugarcane and tobacco which dropped in four years.

In view of an unimpressive growth during the past years, various policies were evolved with a common goal to maximise output through better supply of credit and inputs. Recently the government has announced a new agricultural policy which ensures fair returns to the growers along with an improvement in their socio-economic conditions. Some of the important features of the policy are summarised below:

--The sugarcane prices have been revised upward by Rs 2.00 a maund and for other crops better prices are assured.

--Subsidy on fertilizer has been reduced and the prices of various fertilizers have been increased.

--Subsidy on pesticides has been withdrawn for Punjab and Sind and reduced for the other two provinces.

--Credit facilities will be improved and special attention will be given to the supervised credit system.

--More emphasis will be given on agricultural research.

Sugarcane prices after remaining unchanged for four years were revised in last November by Rs. 1.25. It was, however, realised that they needed further upward revision and were thus increased by Rs 2.00 in the new policy. The percent change in the prices is shown below.

	<u>Pre-November prices</u>	<u>New prices</u>	<u>Percent change</u>
Punjab	Rs. 5.75	Rs. 9.00	56.52
Sind	Rs. 5.90	Rs. 9.15	55.08
N.W.F.P.	Rs. 5.50	Rs. 8.75	59.09

With the increase in prices it is expected that the sugarcane growers will respond positively and shall attempt to increase the area as well as productivity. Here it may be mentioned that last year the area under sugarcane dropped by over 8 percent.

In a developing country like Pakistan where land and people are the major source available for development, the government has to play a vital role in the development of agriculture through fiscal policies and support prices etc. Similar measures have also been introduced through various agricultural policies in Pakistan. Subsidy on fertilizers was initiated to avoid the pressure of its rising import prices on the farmers' budget.

As a matter of fact our local production of fertilizer is far behind the consumption requirements and we have to import more than 50 percent of our needs. The import prices during the past few years have increased averagely by more than 30 percent a year. The burden on the government exchequer has been increasing continuously and it reached Rs. 975 million in 1978-79 as against Rs. 103 million in 1972-73. In view of this situation it was decided in the new policy to reduce the proportion of subsidy and to increase the local prices of fertilizers. The extent of this increase is depicted by the following figures.

	<u>Previous price</u>	<u>New price</u>	<u>Percent change</u>
Urea	63.00	93.00	48%
D.A.P.	67.00	100.00	49%
A.S.	29.00	42.00	45%
N/Phos.	48.50	78.00	61%

With the increase in prices of fertilizers there is little chance of decline in its consumption as our farmers by now have recognised the necessity of such modern inputs in promoting the crop production. Moreover, with better support prices, as are assured in the new policy, farmers may not hesitate to bear a slight increase in the production cost.

Due to recurring infestation, heavy crop losses, on the one hand, reduce the farmers' initiative, and on the other hand, affect the overall economy. As for example cotton which had been the single largest exchange earner came down to secondary position as its production declined continuously for five years from 1972-73 to 1976-77 and we have yet to achieve a production of 708 thousand tonnes which we harvested in 1971-72. In order to save our crops from insects and pest attacks, efforts have always been made to popularise the use of plant protection measures. A subsidy was granted on the cost of pesticides and free aerial spraying service was started. It is, however, noticed that this free service was benefiting the big farmers more who themselves can afford the protection cost. In the new policy, therefore, the provision of free service has been withdrawn and the whole operation has been shifted to the private sector. We must hope that the private agencies will provide due assistance to the farming sector in eradicating the menace of pest and diseases and will also work as a source to educate the ignorant farmers.

While the subsidy on imported pesticides has been totally withdrawn for Punjab and Sind, it has been partially reduced for the other two provinces in view of the comparatively low economic condition of farmers of these areas.

In view of the recent upward revision of input and output prices, there will be an increase in the consumer prices which has already moved up fairly high during the past years. As for example, the consumer price index (202 items) increased by 308.36 over the base period of 1960-70.

Similarly, the price index (1960-70=100) for employees earning up to Rs 300, increased to 303.75 in January, 1980. Thus the revision of the prices of agricultural commodities will adversely affect the household budget of the low income group. It is, therefore, necessary to keep a strict eye on the consumer prices in order to check any abnormal change in the prices of essential commodities.

There has been improvement in the agricultural credit system in Pakistan during the past years, especially with the entrance of commercial banks as credit suppliers to the needy farmers. Another development made in this area has been introduction of supervised credit. The evidences show that a package of credit, knowledge and other supporting services yields better results than by providing credit alone, because the latter has greater chances of misuse.

According to the Annual Report (1977-78) of the Agricultural Development Bank of Pakistan, there has been a substantial improvement in the use of fertilizers on the farms covered under the supervised scheme. The use of Nitrogenous fertilizers increased from 40 percent to 60 percent whereas there has been (an increase of 100 percent in case of phosphatic fertilizers. The intensity of cropping increased from 10 to 15 percent and the yield of various crops improved in a range of 20 to 40 percent.

It therefore, appears to be a timely decision to expand the scope of supervised credit to a greater number of small farmers. This will also help the farming community to shift from traditional to progressive farming which, as a matter of fact, is the need of the time.

The significance of research in agriculture cannot be overlooked as it has been a source of enhancing the pace of agricultural growth both quality-wise as well as quantity-wise in the past years. In almost all developing countries research is being carried out to uproot the traditional drawbacks in farming techniques and lower productivity with the help of modern technology. Similarly, in Pakistan emphasis has always been laid on research but due to lack of coordination and financial support the results have not been very encouraging. In view of this situation the decisions in the new policy assures a rapid growth in the field of research.

It is, however, necessary that better arrangements are made to benefit the small farmers who form the bulk of farming, community, with techniques developed through research in both the physical and the economic fields. The other thing which should be kept in mind is that our farmers are of small means and therefore, are not in a position to adopt costlier techniques.

A distinguishing feature of the new agricultural policy is that it recognises the importance of the sectors which so far have not achieved due attention. These sectors like livestock, fisheries and forestry have great potentials for boosting the overall economy.

With due attention given to agriculture and its subsectors, the new agricultural policy provides us a hope for a flourishing agriculture which ultimately means a prosperous Pakistan. It is, however, possible only with a blend of sincerity and mutual efforts by both public and private sector.

CSO: 4220

ACUTE SUGAR SHORTAGE REPORTED IN SIND VILLAGES

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 10 Mar 80 p 6

[Article by Mehoob Alam Hafiz]

[Excerpt] Sugar shortage in the villages of Sind has assumed a menacing proportion and despite various complaints voiced by the local press and people's representatives, nothing tangible has been done so far to mitigate this trouble. Even in the urban sector, where the sugar quota per head is comparatively more, housewives are constantly grumbling against the paucity of sugar, as in times of need, sugar is not available even at the rate of Rs 15 per kilo. This position has been further aggravated due to the ban on preparation of gur and indigenous sugar in the province and villages, specially where gur was not only part of food but was also used in place of sugar commonly. Even the sugarcane, produced in nonsugarcane zones, is not allowed to be used for the preparation of gur with the result that such sugarcane produced is generally burnt by the growers to escape rigour of law.

Similar is the case of unlifted sugarcane of sugar zones where, the producers suffer a great loss because of the ban on the preparation of gur.

The Abadgars in such sectors, have demanded that the government should reconsider its policy relating to gur as it has aggravated their miseries.

The agriculturists have been repeatedly assured that their demand was being given due consideration but no tangible change in the policy has been announced so far by the provincial Government. If the same policy persists, it is apprehended that cane production in the province would receive a set back, for even those agriculturists whose sugarcane is lifted by the mills have to undergo so many ordeals at the hands of mill owners--a fact which is fully known to the government.

CSO: 4220

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

WHEAT RESERVE PLAN--New Delhi, March 10: Pledging support to the FAO plan of action for world food security Pakistan Minister for Agriculture Fazil Janjua said here today that his country planned to build a reserve of two million tons of wheat. He was addressing the plenary session of the 15th regional FAO conference for Asia and the Pacific which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gaudhi and is being participated by 26 countries, 10 of them at the ministerial level. Pakistan is represented by a six-member delegation headed by Agriculture Minister Admiral Janjua. Leader of Pakistan's delegation said Pakistan has already built a 5 lakh tons of wheat reserve and is raising this level to one million tons with the ultimate objective of maintaining a reserve of two million tons as soon as its resources permit.--APP [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 11 Mar 80 p 8]

GAS RESERVES AT BHINDHERI--Multan, Feb. 26: The presence of huge reserves of natural gas at Bhindheri, in Alipur Tehsil (Muzaffargarh District) has been confirmed by an expert of the Oil and Gas Development Corporation. He stated that necessary machinery and equipment would be installed at the site for exploration of natural gas within the next few days. [Text] [Lahore THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 28 Feb 80 p 9]

CSO: 4220

PHILIPPINES

BRIEFS

UK GOVERNMENT LOAN--Manila, 12 Mar--The Philippine and British governments today signed a 14 million pound (31 million US dollar) loan agreement for the purchase of 37 minihydropower plants for 4 provinces in the country. The signing of the loan agreement was made by the first lady Mrs Imelda Marcos in her capacity as chairman of the National Electrification Administration and by British ambassador to the Philippines William Bentley. Under the agreement 4.5 million pounds (9.99 million dollars) will be provided by the British Government while the remaining 9.5 million pounds (21.09 million dollars) will be in the form of buyers credit from Hill Samuel and Company. The minihydropower plants that can generate 30 megawatts of electricity will be provided to the provinces of Ilocos Norte and Zambales in northern Philippines and Samar and Leyte provinces in central Philippines. The first unit is expected to be delivered in 1981 and the complete delivery will be finished by mid-1983. [Text] [OW161401 Hong Kong AFP in English 1109 GMT 12 Mar 80 OW]

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